



City of Santa Barbara
Airport Department

Memorandum

DATE: April 20, 2011
TO: Airport Commission
FROM: Karen Ramsdell, Airport Director
SUBJECT: 2010 Integrated Pest Management Annual Report

Recommendation:

That Airport Commission recommend that City Council accept the City of Santa Barbara, Integrated Pest Management Strategy, 2010 Annual Report, dated February 2011.

Background:

The City of Santa Barbara adopted an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategy in January 2004 to reduce the amount and toxicity of pesticides used by the City and, where feasible, to eliminate pesticide use in public areas using alternative methods. This report highlights only Airport portions of the attached 2010 IPM Annual Report.

In early 2006, the City adopted the Pesticide Hazard and Exposure Reduction (PHAER) Zone model. In that model, areas of the Airport were mapped based on potential human and environmental pesticide hazard and exposure risk, as green, yellow or special circumstance (red) zones. Accordingly pest control products were evaluated on a range of human and environmental toxicity measures and rated as green, yellow or special circumstance (red). On a continuum, green products have low human and environmental toxicity, while there is high concern over the human and/or environmental toxicity traits associated with special circumstance (red) products. The model informs an applicator of the appropriate type of product to use in a specific area of the City.

Alternatives Used:

- Alternative efforts focused on the control of weeds through mechanical methods, including string trimming, hand weeding and hoeing. 2,348 hours of alternative efforts were documented in 2010 by the Airport. This number is down significantly from prior years due to the establishment of restoration areas previously maintained.
- Gophers outside the airfield fence were controlled with mechanical steel traps.
- Contractor used a propane torch to control weeds on the Hollister traffic islands.

Airport Department Pesticide Use:

Airport pesticide applications concentrated on three types of pests in 2010: mosquitoes, rodents and weeds.

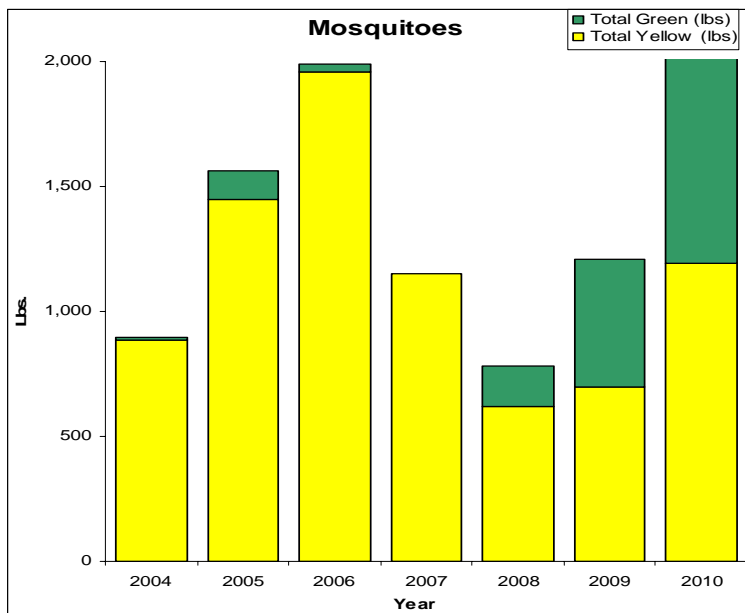
Exemptions

Exemptions from the IPM strategy are required for application of special circumstance (red) materials and for applications of materials that pose more of a hazard than is allowed by the PHAER zone designation. Two exemptions were approved for Airport in 2010 - Fumitoxin and Vikane were approved for use at the Airport. Of the two, only Fumitoxin was used.

Mosquitoes

Airport relies primarily on Altosid XR, a yellow extended release larvicide and Vectobac, a green material, to control mosquito sources in the Goleta Slough. Altosid is effective for up to 180 days, while Vectobac is effective for about 10 days. In wet years, a second application of Altosid XR is needed because storm water remains in the slough beyond the effectiveness of the product. The Mosquito and Vector Management District of Santa Barbara County monitors mosquito populations and performs control activities for the Airport.

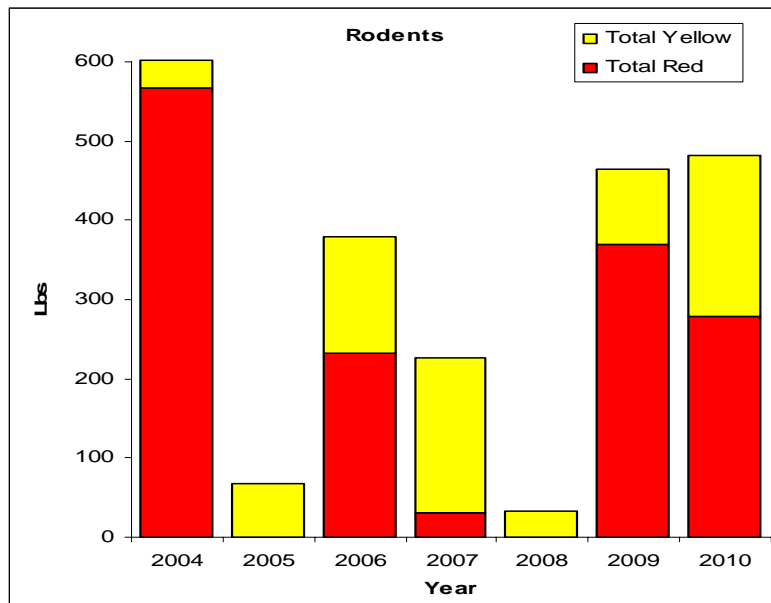
In 2010 the Mosquito and Vector Management District applied 1,190.7 lbs of Altosid XR, Altosid Pellets and Altosid Briquettes, and 1,168.9 lbs of Vectobac G, on the Airport's behalf, to control mosquito sources in and around the Goleta Slough.



Rodents

Airport continued the effort to reduce airfield rodent populations in 2010. Rodents on the airfield attract predators that pose a collision hazard for aircraft. Rodents also create an FAA compliance issue by undermining and creating uneven surfaces in runway safety areas. The Airport is required by FAA to maintain safety areas in a smooth, compact condition. On-going rodent control is necessary to maintain a safe environment for aircraft operations.

In 2010, Airport applied 278.89 lbs of Fumitoxin, a red material, to control gophers on the Airfield. Airport also used 19.56 lbs of Ditrac and 185 lbs of Wilco, both yellow diphacinone based baits to control ground squirrels and other rodents at the Airport.



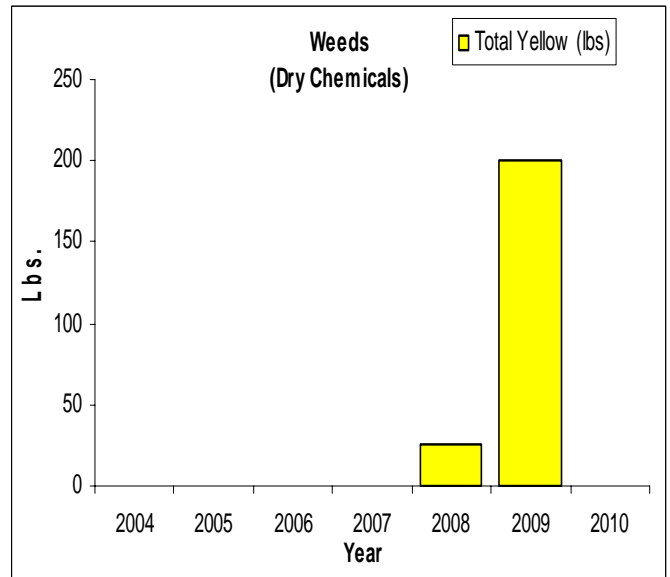
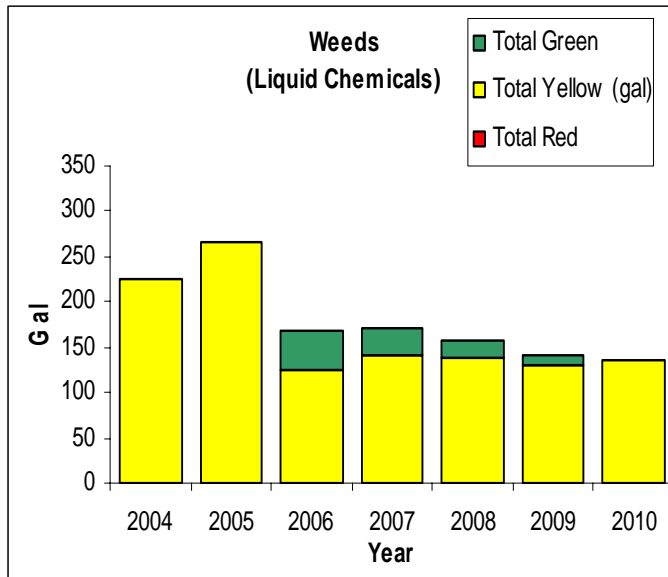
Weeds

In addition to the extensive manual weed control program at the Airport, staff used the yellow products Roundup ProMax and Surflan to maintain the airfield as needed for safe aircraft operations and to preserve infrastructure. Herbicides were used to prevent weeds from obscuring airfield lights and signs, and to prevent weeds from deteriorating airfield assets.

A small amount of yellow materials were also used, consistent with PHAER designations, on the Hollister Avenue traffic islands.

For 2010, Airport applied the following herbicides:

- 85.65 gallons of Roundup Promax (yellow liquid)
- 50 gallons of Surflan (yellow liquid)



Citywide IPM Effort Totals:

To minimize direct and indirect human health and safety hazards posed by pests at the Airport, the Department is the major user of pesticides in the city. Airport Department used 86% of all liquid pesticides and 74% of all dry pesticides applied by the City in 2010, but also contributed over 28% of the alternative effort hours that were recorded citywide.

Mosquito control efforts in the Goleta Slough that help prevent the spread of West Nile Virus account for over 59% of the pesticide units applied by the city.

2011 Strategy Changes:

In 2011 Airport will again use XL2G primarily as a pre-emergent in rocked parkways. The product is particularly effective on the Hollister Avenue traffic islands where manual weed control is hazardous due to traffic.

Airport will also reapply a significant amount of mulch in planter areas on the Airport to suppress weed growth.